

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 13949 291244Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----097813 291251Z /41
R 291220Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6773

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13949

STADIS/////////
EXDIS
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, IT, US
SUBJECT: BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

REF: A) ROME 12782; B) MCKINLEY-HOLMES TELCON 8/23/77

1. WE REGRET THAT EFFORTS TO REMOVE THE POLITICAL ASPECTS FROM THE PLANNED BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL (BI) MEETING HAVE FAILED. HOWEVER, BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFERENCED TELCON, WE BELIEVE THAT FUTURE REPRESENTATIONS WITH BI WOULD PROBABLY BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, ESPECIALLY IF THE GROUP BELIEVED IT HAD TO EXPLAIN ANY CHANGE OF PLANS BASED ON A REQUEST FROM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THE LOSS WILL BE THAT OF BI WHICH WILL HAVE TO CONTEND WITH THE FACT THAT ITALIAN PRESS ATTENTION ON ITS CONFERENCE WILL BE CONCENTRATED DISPROPORTIONATELY ON THE PLANNED APPEARANCE OF BERLINGUER.

2. IN APPROACHING THE CONFERENCE AS IT IS NOW PROPOSED, WE SHALL WANT TO COMPORT OURSELVES SO AS TO AVOID GIVING THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND BI, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF THE DECISION TO INVITE BERLINGUER. ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE AMBASSADOR
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RESTRICT HIS DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE SEMINAR SO AS TO ENSURE THAT HE IS NOT PRESENT WHEN BERLINGUER SPEAKS TO THE GROUP. AS FOR A POSSIBLE RECEPTION AT THE RESIDENCE IN HONOR OF THE BI REPRESENTATIVES, WE ARE CURRENTLY PLANNING TO ORIENT IT TOWARDS THE BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT SECTORS, BEARING IN MIND OUR CONTACT GUIDELINES IN EXTENDING INVITATIONS TO POLITICAL

FIGURES.HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME13949
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770311-0769
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770812/aaaaajux.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8af35751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Reference: 77 ROME 12782
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1448802
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BUSINESS INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
TAGS: EGEN, IT, US, BUSINESS INTL, BI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8af35751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009